

Serial No. 09/681,116

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REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ancarani Restelli. The examiner states Ancarani Restelli discloses the basic apparatus of the present invention except for automatically shifting the bicycle transmission when operating in the automatic mode by using only bicycle speed, however, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to eliminate parameters other than bicycle speed for bicycle transmission shifting, since omission of an element and its function where not needed is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1, 11, 17 and 24 have been amended to recite that a bicycle rider programs or selects automatic shift points by entering the setting mode, while riding the bicycle, and manually shifting the bicycle transmission at desired wheel speeds which the bicycle computer stores in its memory to be used during the automatic mode. Ancarani Restelli discloses an automatic bicycle shifting system that shifts between gears based upon predefined values stored in the memory of the computer. The predefined values are pre-selected before riding the bicycle, see specification at col. 3, lines 29-35. In contrast, the wheel speeds at which the bicycle will automatically shift according to the present invention are set while riding the bicycle during a setting mode of the bicycle computer. Therefore, Ancarani Restelli fails to teach or suggest an automatic shifting system that allows the rider to program or select the desired automatic shift points by shifting the bicycle during an actual bicycle ride as claimed in claims 1, 11, 17 and 24. For this reason, the rejection of claims 1-32 should be withdrawn.

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This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN JORDAN



Lisa J. Wunderlich, Attorney
Registration No. 40,307
SRAM Corporation
1333 N. Kingsbury, 4th Floor
Chicago, IL 60622
(312) 664-8800 ext. 1393

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